

A CAUSTIC CRITIC

Dr. Parkhurst in His Statement of His Position.

ON RESULT OF THE LEXOW INQUIRY

He Gives All Glory to the Committee and Its Chairman,

BUT WHEN IT REACHES TO BYRNES

His Statement Lets Loose and Handles the Subject Without Gloves. He Thinks that the Superintendent is Guilty With the Rest and that Inquisitor Goff Did Not Probe Far Enough--A Sensational Letter from a Man Who Probably Knows What He is Talking About.

New York, Dec. 31.--The Rev. Charles Parkhurst to-night gave out the subjoined statement after it had been read before the executive committee of the society for the prevention of crime and officially endorsed by that body.

In stating my position touching certain questions now lying before the public mind, I cannot express myself too appreciatively of the splendid work that has been done by the senate committee and its talented counsel. There has been created through their instrumentality an epoch in the history of our city, and there has been secured at the same time a municipal revolution that would have been impossible except through their agency or an agency of a similar kind. And it is but just that we farther than this and recognize the work of this committee and of its counsel as being the influence which is contributing very largely to similar municipal upheavals throughout the entire country. Mr. Lexow's committee, Mr. Goff and his associates do not stand in need of our commendation, but it is a pleasure as well as a duty to accord it, and it is accorded with earnest cordiality.

It may furthermore be promised that any strictures that we may feel it necessary to pass, are prompted by no spirit of animosity toward any man or any association of men. The personal element does not enter into the question with us. There is no particular line which our society has laid down for itself and particularly ends which we have been for a considerable time prosecuting, and in all our efforts personalities are merely an incident.

If the readers of this statement will put themselves to the pain of recalling what transpired last spring they will remember that at that time the writer of this statement and a few associated with him were the only ones who believed in the honesty of purpose of the senate committee.

The newspapers were almost a unit in their conviction that to rely upon Mr. Lexow and his colleagues for our municipal deliverance was to lean upon a broken reed. I remember very well saying to Mr. Lexow at Albany, that I had just come from New York, where the entire atmosphere was pervaded with utter disgust of him and all the members of his committee.

HE HAD NO DOUBTS.

I became convinced, however, by my personal association with Mr. Lexow, Mr. Bradley and two or three of their colleagues that the committee could be counted upon to do honest, faithful and thorough work of our up to the end. I gave to them my entire confidence; I used my best efforts to break down the spirit of distrust which prevailed, and in conjunction with the other members of the executive committee of the society for the prevention of crime, put at the service of the senators the entire resources of our office. And they have been availing themselves of these resources up to Saturday night last.

We have watched the actions of the committee with keenest and unqualified assurance. They have bored into the rotten tissue of the police department with utter indifference as to the character, political or otherwise, of what they struck. Knowing that their report would have to be rendered the first of the new year, we did, to be sure, become a little solicitous lest they were not allowing sufficient time for examining the higher officials, but I suppose they knew what they were about and that they would not do anything that would even look like stopping their work without finishing it.

Matters had been for so long a time conducted in entire thoroughness that we had even forgotten that we had ever been distrustful; but late in November the indications were clear that the investigation was not to be pushed to its close in the same energetic and unsparring manner that had been followed up to that date.

We know that the character of the police force was a reflection from the character of its chief executive and his immediate subordinates, and that however many captains might be smirched, and however many sergeants might be cashiered, the genesis of the matter would not be reached till we had arrived at the quality of the five men who together constitute its executive headship.

FINISHED AT THE CRISIS.

In view of all this, we are justified in saying that while the committee stood up to the rack magnificently through all the earlier portions of the investigation, they flinched at the crisis. As long ago as when Mr. Moss undertook to adduce evidence against Mr. Byrnes in a direct manner, the investigation committee sprang to Byrnes' assistance. Now that is not a thing to debate. Their attitude was instantly recognized by those in attendance and distinctly stated in the journals of the next morning. The pursuit of lines that might possibly have conducted to the real wickedness of Byrnes' conduct and character was discouraged--discouraged as it has been discouraged in the case of no other man.

Now there was a reason for that. We are not saying just yet that there was anything that could be proved against Mr. Byrnes; we are saying that the committee withheld their support from efforts made to show that there was something that could be proved against Mr. Byrnes. We are not saying that there was anything in the Maret case that was discreditable to the superintendent, but we are saying that the com-

mittee was indisposed to have the matter thoroughly ventilated in order to discover whether there was anything in it discreditable to the superintendent. Their thoroughness broke down at that point. They stumbled just at the completion of their work. The chairman of the committee will not dare to deny that it is "policy" (I have used that word advisedly, he will recognize what I refer to) that controlled him in his handling of Mr. Byrnes and not a desire to set in view of all the probable or ascertainable facts in Mr. Byrnes' case.

BYRNES EQUALLY GUILTY.

Now the presumption is on the side of the superintendent's being as criminal as any other member of the force; so that the hesitancy to handle him as Williams was handled could not proceed from any prior conviction of his innocence. Wherever they have stuck in their fork they have found rot; and whether Byrnes be rotten or not, he had been in rot for thirty years, and has been executive head of rot for the last two years. The presumption, therefore, was against him, so that the indisposition to handle him thoroughly must have been grounded in some other consideration than that of his presumable innocence.

There are two ways in which Mr. Byrnes has put the committee under obligations and to that degree destroyed their independence. He put them under obligations by consenting to help defeat Tammany Hall, and it is to be remembered that this committee is first and foremost an anti-Tammany committee and came down here for anti-Tammany purposes.

The second way in which the committee put themselves under obligations to him was by taking him into their confidence and allowing him to become confederate with them in breaking down the force.

Let me say in conclusion that I have no interest in this matter save a profound and passionate desire to see work that is thorough. If Mr. Byrnes, with characteristic disposition to get his own neck out of the yoke, says that he has been so handicapped as to be practically powerless, I want to say that all such excuse is evasive and cowardly.

A STRONG POINT.

If he had wanted to turn the police department upside down and exhibit it in the character that he certainly knew belonged to it, he could have done it and done it easily, and the public would have stood by him and no body of men more solidly or heartily than the Society for the Prevention of Crime. Men with as much influence as Mr. Byrnes who have been in the midst of iniquity clear up to their ears for thirty years can fight iniquity if they want to, and if they are clean they will want to.

I am aware that many who are our friends will take exception to this statement. Some will say that it is inexpedient. That is not a consideration that weighs with us. We are here for a principle and we are here to stay. Compromises, evasions, shifts and deals we believe to be inimical to everything in the shape of true progress and permanent effects. We are not prowling for promotion nor burning for popularity, but the Society for the Prevention of Crime was here before the senate committee came down and will be here after the senate committee has gone back, and the uncompromising line that we have followed in the past will be the line that we shall just as studiously and unswervingly follow in the future.

PLATT VS. PARKHURST.

The Ex-Senator Tells Why He Opposed the Great Reformer's Plan--Says He is Sincere but Impractical.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Dec. 31.--Ex-United States Senator Thomas C. Platt, of New York, who is here visiting relatives, in an interview with a reporter for the Associated Press to-night, discussed the Rev. Dr. Parkhurst and his methods without reserve.

"I opposed Dr. Parkhurst," he said, "because I did not think his methods practical and because I looked upon his schemes as being visionary. His idea of a one-headed police force is simply absurd, and would put in the hands of the man at the head of that department a power that he might use to the great disadvantage of the force. His intentions are sincere, but they are visionary and, therefore, of no use. He has done a great deal of good, of course, but I believe his head is swollen by the flattery of the New York newspapers. His ideas regarding the suppression of crime are no longer suggested, but ordered. He is continually saying 'must,' and to this practical men not only take exception, but they criticize it harshly."

Referring to the resignation of Superintendent Byrnes, Mr. Platt said:

"I do not believe Mayor Strong will accept it. Byrnes is too valuable a man to lose, and when the department is reorganized he will be at the head of it, I think."

Mr. Platt refused to discuss the recent attacks upon him by a Republican newspaper in New York.

Exit Flower.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 31.--Roswell P. Flower officially terminated his career as governor of the state of New York by dining his military staff at the Kenmore to-night.

BRIEFS FROM THE WIRES.

A cabinet change in Hayti is imminent. All is quiet, but a scarcity of money and hard times prevail.

The United Coal Company, at Shamokin, Pa., will resume work at three of its collieries on Wednesday, but the Hickory Swamp will remain idle.

John Burns, the English labor leader, lectured in Philadelphia last night. He dwelt on trades unionism, and spoke in line with his former lectures in this country.

Belle Armstrong, a wealthy young lady of Almonte, Ont., jumped from a moving train yesterday and broke her neck. Her father witnessed the accident and the shock drove him insane.

The Canadian department of agriculture has ascertained that the term "America" in Germany's decree prohibiting the entry of live cattle from America also includes Canada. The government has therefore asked the imperial authorities to make overtures to the German government to have Canada disassociated in interpretation with the term America.

HORRORS INCREASE.

Seventeen Servants of the Delavan House Now Supposed to Have Perished.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 31.--The horrors of the Delavan house fire increase as the hours go by and where this morning nine persons were reported missing, the list to-night is increased to seventeen. The full list of missing is as follows:

Mrs. Francis Hill, from Chicago; Nora Sullivan, chambermaid; Mary Sullivan, chambermaid, sister of Nora; Mary Caray, chambermaid, from Saratoga; Annie Bailey, employed in cleaning department; Bridget Fitzgibbons, employed in pantry; Amelia Tomazina, chambermaid; Simon Myra, coffee man; Roseanta Storney, chambermaid; Ellen Dillon, landress; Agnes Wilson, chambermaid, from Buffalo; Rao Young, employed in the linen department, from Buffalo; Kate Crowley, chambermaid; Tom Cannon, hall man; Fernando Bolletti, fireman; Ricardo Telefon, workman in kitchen; an unknown Italian, worked in kitchen.

About twenty girls were sleeping in the attic, which was on the Steuben street side of the house, and the only exit was a narrow stairway leading to the third floor hallway from which there were three stairways by which to escape. The most reliable information that could be obtained was given by an employee of the house named Kate Moonahan, who knew all of the girls well and had up to that time been unable to find twelve of them whom she is positive are dead. Besides these she asserts that four men are also in the ruins.

Miss Maughan says she escaped through the basement, and at that time the girls, she believes, were lost in the attic.

When she reached the last stairway, the six lower steps were burned, and she had to jump the remaining distance. If the girls were in the attic then, it seems impossible for them to have escaped.

SIX BURNED TO DEATH.

Mrs. O'Connell and Five Children Perish in Their Home.

ELLSWORTH, Wis., Dec. 31.--Yesterday morning at an early hour Mrs. Michael O'Connell and five children were burned to death in their home, in the town of El Paso.

Mr. O'Connell was the only member of the family who slept down stairs, and he barely escaped from the building in his night clothes. As he rushed out, his wife appeared at an upper window and dropped the youngest child in his arms, and returning into the room for the others, was undoubtedly suffocated, for she never returned. Another child jumped from the window, and was saved. Mr. O'Connell was perhaps fatally burned in his attempts to rescue his family.

Great Oil Refinery Burned.

BERLIN, Dec. 31.--A dispatch received here announces that Rycklovski & Sayel's great petroleum refinery at Batoom, on the Black sea, has been burned. The loss is enormous.

A NOBLE WORK.

A Train Load of Grain for the Drought-Stricken District of Nebraska.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 31.--Ex-Governor W. J. Northen is heading a movement for a shipment of corn to the starving people of Nebraska, and is meeting with assurances of success. On January 15 a long freight train will pull out of Atlanta, laden with the silver and golden grain, a New Year's present from the overflowing bins of Georgia, to the empty cribs of the suffering of Nebraska.

Governor Northen has kept the wires busy with telegrams to the mayors of all the cities and towns in Georgia, asking them to give out of their superabundance to the stricken families of Nebraska. He has also sent dispatches to the railroad officials of the leading roads of Georgia, asking them to help the good work by granting free transportation to such grain as is shipped over their roads for the sufferers.

In response to these requests he has received assurances from President Hoffman, of the Seaboard Air Line, from the Atlanta & West Point railroad and from the Western & Atlantic, offering their freight facilities free and such other assistance as may be in their power.

RELEASED IMMIGRANTS.

The Steaming Passengers at Chester Allowed to Go Their Way.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 31.--After being detained fourteen days at the quarantine station at Chester, the 305 steaming passengers of the steamship Southwark were released this morning. They at once boarded a steamer engaged for the purpose by the steamship company, and after an examination of luggage by the custom officials, arrangements were made to send the arrivals to their respective destinations.

About 250 left the city, many for New York and others for various points in the west. Many of them are strangers to these shores. The majority are from Great Britain, but Scandinavia, Poland and Hungary sent their usual quota. Those who were not welcomed by relatives or friends were detained until communication with them could be made, except in the cases of those who were sufficiently familiar with this country to justify their release.

The detention was for the period required from the development of small-pox germs, and as no cases developed, all danger is considered over.

His Last Bicycle Ride.

SAG HARBOR, L. I., Dec. 31.--Frederick Glover, riding his bicycle on Long Pond, went through the ice and was drowned to-day.

Important Facts.

If you have dull and heavy pain across forehead and about the eyes; if the nostrils are frequently stopped up and followed by a disagreeable discharge; if soreness in the nose and bleeding from the nostrils is often experienced; if you are very sensitive to cold in the head accompanied with headache; then you may be sure you have catarrh, and should immediately resort to Ely's Cream Balm for a cure. The remedy will give instant relief.

Chappelen's Bronchial, the great cough cure.

IS HE INSANE?

The Strange Case of Ex-Congressman Walt Butler.

DOES NOT SEEM TO BE DEMENTED

And Yet His Conduct is Inexplicable. His Mind a Blank from the Time He Disappeared from His Home Until He Arrived at Indianapolis. Has Attended to Business All Night, but Only Discovered Himself Sunday--What His Brother Says.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Dec. 31.--When ex-Congressman Butler, who has just been identified in this city after a long and unexplainable disappearance, was shown the Associated Press dispatch from his brother, R. W. Butler, of Cleveland, he said that he had received no message as yet from Dr. Butler. He repeated the statement that his mind was a blank as to his departure from home. He also said that he did not think he was insane, for he felt nor saw none of the things accompanying insanity. The book agency for which Mr. Butler had been canvassing since November 24, reports his accounts straight and speaks highly of his success and intelligent presentations of certain books which he was selling.

H. G. Phillips, a prominent attorney of Oelwein, Iowa, arrived here this evening in search of ex-Congressman Walt Butler. He found him at the police station where Butler had gone during the afternoon to give himself up. Butler told Police Superintendent Powell that he had an irresistible desire to board a train, and he was afraid he might leave the city before his friends arrived. Mr. Phillips left for Iowa with Butler to-night.

A dispatch from Cleveland, Ohio, says:

Dr. R. W. Butler, of this city, a brother of ex-Congressman Butler, of Pennsylvania, who turned up so mysteriously yesterday at Indianapolis, after several months' absence, has been actively engaged for some time past in trying to locate the missing man.

The doctor was advised of his brother's whereabouts by the Associated Press dispatch last night. He at once telegraphed to Indianapolis an inquiry. Dr. Butler stated that his brother had been in financial straits previous to his disappearance, and this trouble had undoubtedly driven him insane.

Dr. Butler received a telegram this afternoon from his brother in Indianapolis, saying that he was all right and has been employed by E. J. Heil & Co., of that city, since November 20. It is the doctor's opinion that his brother has been suffering from a low fever.

A dispatch from Butler's wife says that she believes him to be insane.

COAL OPERATORS.

Of the Pittsburgh District to Hold an Important Meeting.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., December 31.--A meeting of the coal operators of this district will be held here Wednesday to take action on the result of the joint convention of miners and operators last Friday.

At this meeting representatives of the operators on the joint committee of investigation will be named. The majority of the operators favor the idea of a committee to investigate the condition of affairs in the district and report recommendations for bettering it.

BRECKINRIDGE LOSES.

His Attempt to Save His Box Receipts at Cincinnati a Failure.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 31.--The case of W. C. P. Breckinridge to recover the receipts levied upon at his lecture last Thursday night was lost by the congressman to-day. Gustavus A. Meyer, who levied on the receipts for his services in taking depositions in the Poland case a year ago, was sustained. It is stated that Breckinridge's receipts have been small at other points, and here he lost all. Manager Ballenberg claims the receipts, and will replenish them from Meyer.

FAIR'S WILL.

Will Likely be Contested by His Son, Charlie, Who Feels Slighted.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31.--The chance for a contest over the will of the late ex-Senator James G. Fair seems to be interesting. Charlie Fair has realized that the clause depriving of a share in the estate any children he may have is a slight. He also resents the placing in the hands of any outsiders the management of the Fair estate. On the latter grounds, it is said, his sisters, Mrs. Oelrich and Miss Virginia Fair, may join hands with Charlie, although he has not been on speaking terms with them for some years.

McKinleyites in Germany.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 31.--It is asserted at the agricultural department that the agricultural or agrarian party in the German empire brought about the prohibition of the importation to Germany of live cattle, dressed beef, canned beef and other meat products from the United States. Secretary Morton says that the landed proprietors in Germany are protectionists who teach McKinleyism in "high duties." They desire, he says, to exclude all competition which may arise from the fertile lands of the United States.

To Work Among the Lowly.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31.--General Booth has commissioned Helen G. Schofield as a lieutenant in the Salvation army and has assigned her to work in the hardest post in San Francisco, among the lowest of the fallen women. She is a daughter of Rev. L. H. Schofield, who was pastor of important Presbyterian churches in California and who is now in Chicago. Miss Schofield graduated with distinction from Mills' Seminary two years ago and joined the Salvation army last April.

Josephus Will Resign.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.--Josephus Daniels, chief clerk of the interior department, will probably tender his resignation to the secretary of the interior in a few days in order to devote his entire attention to the paper of which he is owner and editor at Raleigh, N. C.

A PROPER DECISION.

Judge Buchwalter Will Not Surrender Hampton Without Assurance That There Will Be No Lynching.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, Dec. 31.--Judge Buchwalter to-day refused to surrender Rev. A. H. Hampton, alias Alex Jackson, a colored minister, to Deputy Sheriff W. W. Perrin, of Lebanon, Ky., until he had the assurance of Governor Brown and of the sheriff of Green county, Ky., that the man would be protected on any mob. Rev. Hampton was formerly a teacher at Whiteside, Ky., and had some words with J. C. Durham, a farmer, in June, 1893, because the pupils were stealing the latter's fruit. Rev. Hampton shot Durham, but not fatally, and fled.

Deputy Sheriff Perrin, a relative of Durham, last night arrested Hampton while preaching at Avondale. After an exciting time, he was to-day brought before Judge Buchwalter on extradition papers. Hampton said as he was indicted and Durham had recovered, he had been willing to go back if assured a fair trial. He had received letters from prominent people there warning him his life was not safe. A colored man and a colored boy had been lynched there, one for murder and the other for criminal assault and he would be strung up by a mob if taken back by Deputy Sheriff Perrin.

"I have sent two colored men back lately," said Judge Buchwalter. "One to Georgia and one to Kentucky. Although the offense of the latter, an Italian peddler was only shooting at somebody, he was taken by a mob out of the Burlington jail and hung to a tree. I determined then I would never send another prisoner south unless I had assurances he would be protected from a mob and given a fair trial. I must have a letter from Governor Brown and the sheriff of your county to that effect."

Rev. Hampton, of Jackson, was taken back to jail until further order of court. Deputy Sheriff Perrin returned and said he expected to be back with the letters required by Judge Buchwalter.

WAS HE MURDERED?

Evidence That Harry W. Tilden Has Met with Foul Play.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.--Whether or not Harry W. Tilden, of Greensboro, N. C., has met with foul play, is suggested by the arrest here of Max Mechela, who is suspected of being a steamboat crook. Mechela was arrested last Wednesday in order to afford the police an opportunity to obtain evidence against him.

When Mechela was arrested, seven trunks and valises containing property of the aggregate value of \$500, were found in his apartments in addition to some mining stock of the face value of \$45,000. It is supposed that these bonds are owned by Harry W. Tilden.

In court to-day the policeman who arrested Mechela said he had received a letter from C. W. V. Tilden, of 311 Asbore street, Greensboro, N. C., saying that his brother, Harry W., had left for Europe eight months ago, and had not since been heard from. The writer goes on to say that if the bonds found in Mechela's possession belong to Harry W. Tilden, the latter had probably met with foul play.

Phon Tilden, a reporter on the Baltimore News, also writes that he is a brother of Harry W. Tilden.

A REAL DUEL.

Which, Not Being Fought in France, but in America, Results in Bloodshed.

EASTON, Pa., Dec. 31.--E. C. Reigel, a prominent physician of Bloomsbury, N. J., a few miles from here, and William Bebbler, of Philadelphia, fought a duel at Bloomsbury early Sunday morning. Reigel received two bad wounds on the crown of his head and his coat was pierced with bullets, which fortunately did not take effect. Bebbler had a narrow escape, a book in his pocket preventing a bullet from passing through his body.

The trouble was caused by jealousy. Bebbler, who is a cousin of Dr. Reigel's wife, had been corresponding with her and paying her frequent visits. On Saturday he paid her a visit, which resulted in a war of words between Bebbler and the doctor. The outcome of the quarrel was a challenge from the doctor to fight a duel, which was promptly accepted by Bebbler. Sunday morning was the time set for the meeting and the men met at the appointed hour, and in short order began firing at each other with revolvers with the above result.

Mrs. Reigel, who is the alleged cause of the trouble, is twenty years of age and very attractive. The parties are well connected and the affair has caused quite a sensation.

Driven to Death.

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 31.--A special to the News from Menominee, Mich., says: Martin, John and Frank Woesnak, brothers, are adrift in Green Bay behind a field of ice in an open fish boat. They could be seen with a glass at noon, but are being driven toward death's door and Lake Michigan and will undoubtedly perish.

He Will Hang.

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 31.--Frank Bezeo, the Austrian who was recently convicted of the murder of his sweetheart, Maria Korzia, was to-day sentenced by Judge Edwards to be hanged on a day to be designated by the governor. Bezeo, whose real name is said to be Perchon, killed the girl because she refused to marry him.

Bishop Knickerbocker Dead.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Dec. 31.--The Right Rev. David Buell Knickerbocker, D. D., bishop of the diocese of Indiana, died at 5 o'clock this evening of pneumonia. He was born at Schaghticoke, Rensselaer county, N. Y., on February 24, 1833.

Price of Bread Reduced.

BRADEFOED, Pa., Dec. 31.--Two leading bakers of this city announced a reduction in the price of bread from eight to five cents. Other firms will probably meet the price.

Snow Storms in France.

PARIS, Dec. 31.--Severe snow storms have prevailed recently in the northern and southern parts of France. Snow is so deep at Pontarlier, in the department of Doubs, that railroad traffic has been completely stopped.

Dispatches received here from Chorboung say that numbers of fishing boats belonging to that port have been lost.

A BISHOP CHALLENGED

To Make Good His Assertion Regarding the Knights of Pythias.

GRAND CHANCELLOR T. J. HILSHER,

Of Minnesota, Calls Upon Bishop Mesmer to Prove that the Higher Degrees of the Order are Anti-Christian in Their Teachings, and Also that the Lower and Higher Degrees are Radically Different. A Letter Brought Out by an Interview.

ST. PAUL, MINN., Dec. 31.--The following letter was mailed in this city to-day, being given to The Associated Press at the same time:

ST. PAUL, MINN., Dec. 31, 1894.

Right Rev. Sir:--Your interview dated Green Bay, Wis., December 19, and reported in the Chicago Tribune, in regard to the degree of the Roman church putting the ban on the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias, is entitled to special consideration from the fact that you offer an argument in justification of the ban. Your argument is stated as follows: "There never has been any objection to Catholics belonging to the lower degrees of any of these secret societies, as in those degrees, men are only banded together for mutual benefit and pleasure; but in higher degrees, the principles and teachings of these societies are distinctly anti-Christian and contrary to the principles of the Catholic church. If the lower lodges were separated from the higher circles of these orders, no objection would be made to them, but as all are a part of the same organization, they must all come under the ban."

Your words, right reverend sir, are clear and explicit, and if your argument can be sustained, they explain fully the ban placed on these societies by the pope. But I deny the argument against the Knights of Pythias, and publicly challenge you to prove your assertion. You owe this to the American public, to your own church and in a special manner to the societies on whom your accusation falls.

My demands, made with the greatest respect, are:

1. That you prove that a radical difference exists as to principles and purposes between the lower and higher degrees of the Knights of Pythias; a difference such as to make the higher degrees worthy of condemnation, while the lower are innocent.

2. That you prove in those higher degrees "the principles and teachings of these societies are distinctly anti-Christian and contrary to the principles of the Catholic church."

I may add that, though begging a reply to all these points, I hope you will give special attention to your charge that the higher degrees are anti-Christian--a charge which certainly should not be made lightly.

As your interview was given to the public press, I consider it my privilege and duty to give this reply the same publicity. Respectfully,

J. F. HILSHER, Grand Chancellor Knights of Pythias of Minnesota.

SENSIBLE VIEWS

Of Prominent Knights of Pythias on the Pope's Decree.

Piqua, O., Dec. 31.--Walter B. Ritchie, of Lima, O., supreme chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, and John C. Burns, of Mansfield, supreme representative, were in this city to-day. Supreme Chancellor Ritchie said: "The church is able to run its own business. The Knights of Pythias are able to run theirs. We do not propose to run theirs nor will they be able to interfere with us." Supreme Representative Burns said: "I have no criticism to make of either his holiness or the supreme keeper of records and seals of the order." Dr. White, of Nashville, whose interview was published to-day. The subject of the pope's bull against members of the church becoming members of the order is not a proper matter for any member of the order to be interviewed on. The Catholic church will go on, however, while the supreme chancellor and I are liable to become back numbers."

COL. T. B. COULTER DEAD.

The Late Sixth Auditor of the Treasury Expires at His Home in Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligence.

STREUBENVILLE, O., Dec. 31.--Col. Thomas Benton Coulter, ex-sixth auditor of the treasury under Harrison, died last night at 11 o'clock at the home of his brother-in-law, Dr. Gracy, at Unionport, this county, aged fifty-one years. His death was brought about by Bright's disease from which he had been an invalid and sufferer for a year. He was taken ill while in Washington City and being told that it was but a question of time until his end would come, and feeling that he wanted to die among the scenes of his youth during the summer he was removed to his old home at Bloomfield, in Wayne township, this county, and taken later on to Unionport in the same township where he died. Colonel Coulter was one of the most prominent attorneys at the Jefferson county bar. He was county clerk twice and refused election a third time after being nominated. He served Jefferson and Columbiana counties as state senator for two terms very ably. He made a race for Congress in 1888, but was defeated. He then received his appointment as sixth auditor. He was a member of the Knights Templar, Knights of Pythias, G. A. R. and Knights of Honor. He was a member of the 157th O. N. G. under Colonel McCook in the late war.

Steamship Arrivals.

Bremen--Brunswick, Baltimore. London--Green, New York. Liverpool--Michigan, Boston. Georgian, Boston. Havre--La Normandie, New York. Mobile--Ximilian, Portland. New York--Kiser Wilhelm III from Genoa. Port Adelaide--Kemble from New York.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

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